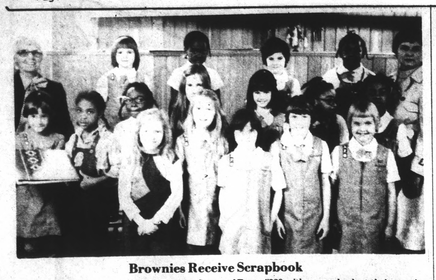

Brownies Receive Scrapbook

Mrs. Edith Tolley presented the Brownie Scouts of Troop #328 with a scrapbook at their meeting. It is a gift from the Troop sponsor, The United Methodist Women of Piney Ridge Church. Troop #328 is the first Girl Scout Troop to be in Pamplin.

Then & Now

An Easter Bonnet With All The Frills Upon It

I once heard a Baptist minister say that the only time he saw some members of his congregation was on Easter morning - - - when they attended church for the sole purpose of showing off their new spring attire. This was a gross exaggeration - - - I hope!

When spring begins to tint the world with an array of pastels - - - the delicate green of new leaves, the silver-gray of pussywillows, and the sunny yellow of jonquils, something happens to all of us. Even the least clothes-conscious take stock of their wardrobe and yearn for something new.

Had you been a lady in the days of THEN and shopping for an Easter outfit, your first purchase would most likely have been a hat; not just any hat, but a very special creation - - fashioned just for you!

Miss Lelia Inge, a spinster, opened the very first hat shop in Appomattox and it was located on the corner of Lee Grant Avenue and Church Street, where Liberty Baptist Church now has a parking lot.

Mrs. Allison T. Inge (Mary) who is a source of almost unlimited knowledge concerning Appomattox in the early days, knew Miss Lelia Inge quite well. Recalling the first shop and Miss Lelia, Mrs. Inge said "Miss Lelia was a cute old maid but she had some rather unusual ideas about certain things. I once heard her say, 'I'm so glad I don't have a husband. I don't know what to do! I'd be afraid to go to sleep at night because I'd be afraid he'd kill me!'"

While Miss Lelia's remark about a husband might leave you wondering whether or not she was really a "man-hater", there's one thing about which there was no doubt--Miss Lelia knew about hats.

Upon entering Miss Lelia's Hat Shop you would find hats in a variety of fabrics; Leghorn, Panama, Hemp, straw and velvet. After the lady had made her choice of hats Miss Lelia would "dress" the hat! There was ribbon, flowers, feathers, and veiling by the yard - - - and of course we mustn't forget the absolute necessity - - - a hatpin. People who could afford it had the luxury of a hat box with their initials on it; but regardless of your state of finances, you had to have that hat pin (one kind or another) - - it kept that hat on!

Mrs. Inge said most of the hats "completely dressed" would sell for around $3.00. The nice thing about buying a hat in those days was the fact that

An Easter Bonnet - Then

you could take it back, have it "dressed" all over again with new and different "trimmings". Of course, there were those who could easily afford a completely new hat each time, and bought them.

Miss Lelia was indeed a kind, considerate shopkeer to her customers. Mrs. Rachel Lawson remembers that Miss Lelia would be willing (and happy) to lend you at hat (until you could get one) if she had nothing in her shop to suit your fancy.

On one occasion according to Mrs. Lawson (then Rachel Ferguson) she and older sister Russell were on their way to Lynchburg on the train. On this particular occasion Rachel was wearing a "borrowed" hat. Being young and full of curiousity, Rachel got too close to an open window of the train, and before she was aware of what was happening, the hat was gone!

A robbery was probably the first thought that came to the mind of the engineer and the other passengers when they suddenly heard the sound of the emergency bell. Russell, seeing what had happened, shouted at her sister in irritation and then pulled the emergency cord, stopping the train. They retrieved the "borrowed" hat that had blown out of the window and continued merrily on their way. I'll bet Rachel was careful of that hat from then on, don't you?

Miss Lelia not only handled ladies hats but had quite an assortment of baby caps to please the most discriminating mother. Mrs. Inge remembers that the winter caps were fashioned of China silk and lined with outing, and always a big bow was tied under the chin!

Miss Lelia's was the first hat shop in Appomattox but not the last. Around 1920 Virginia's Bonnet Shop was opened by the late Virginia Ferguson Henderson, a sister of Mrs. Rachel Lawson and a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Ferguson.

Virginia's Bonnet Shop was in the old L. E. Smith Store Building until it burned in 1923 and then she moved her location to where Jeanne's Restaurant is now located.

Mrs. Inge distinctly remembers two hats she owned; one of straw woven like lace and trimmed with blue for-get-me-nots. This one was created for her by Miss Lelia Inge. The other one was an exceptionally beautiful hat made of burgundy velvet that was fashioned at Virginia's Bonnet Shop especially for her. Mrs. Inge remembered Virginia as being an exceptionally good businesswoman, despite the fact that she was confined to a wheelchair as a result of polio at the age of nine months. Later in life Virginia opened an antique shop in Richmond, where she was well known and loved by her many friends and customers.

When a woman was widowed she always wore a black hat with a black mourning veil for at least six to twelve months. The veiling was always black and thin while there was an edge of heavy black ribbon around the entire veil. Should a widow not wear this "proper" mourning attire, she was frowned upon as being a woman of poor taste indeed.

The untimmed hats were bought in Richmond and kept on display racks in the shop along with the trimmings. Mrs. Inge recalls browsing in the shop many a day.

Along with Miss Lelia's Hat Shop, Mrs. Ola Patteson, mother of Mrs. Harry Johnson, Mrs. Calvin Robinson, and Mrs. Lougenia Doss, owned and operated a hat shop in Appomattox. I am told Mrs. Patteson was an esceptionally good businesswoman and offered the best in hats for ladies.

Mrs. Harry Johnson recalls that when she and Mr. Johnson were first married, they lived in the Appomattox Hotel. In the basement of the hotel was another hat shop. This shop not only handled hats but other articles of ladies clothing. This business was owned and operated by Mrs. Mollie Cheatham, mother of Mr. Z. B. Cheatham of Evergreen and Mr. Tucker Cheatham of Appomattox.

So, had you been a lady in the days of THENyou would have had the very best from which to choose when it came time for your Easter Bonnet - - - with all the frills upon it!

Not many of us have Easter bonnets any more, but when you go shopping for new clothes, whether or not it's a hat, remember what a good time all the ladies had in the days of THEN when they chose a hat. Happy Easter!

Tax Break On Sale Of Home Liberalized For Older Americans

RICHMOND - Beginning this year, certain taxpayers 65 years of age or older may exclude all of the gain from the sale of their home from their gross income if the adjusted sales price is $35,000 or less, the Internal Revenue Service said.

The IRS cautioned taxpayers that this change is effective for Tax Year 1977 and should not be reflected on returns being prepared now for 1976.

Under the new law, if the adjusted sales price is more than $35,000, the tax break is prorated.

In prior years, the full tax break could be taken only if the adjusted sales price was $20,000 or less. The adjusted sales price is the amount that the seller receives after paying selling commissions and certain allowable fix-up expenses, the IRS explained.

The IRS said that to qualify for the exclusion, as in the past, taxpayers must:

- have been at least 65 **before** the sale of the home;

- have owned and used the property as their principal residence for at least 5 years (continuously or with interruptions) within an 8-year period ending on the date of sale;

- never have used the tax exclusion before (it may be used only once in the taxpayer's lifetime).

Information on the sale of a home by older Americans is available free from the IRS in Publication 523, "Tax Information on Selling or Purchasing Your Home," and Publication 554, "Tax Benefits for Older Americans." These and a number of other handy IRS publications may be obtained by filling out the order blank in the 1040 or 1040A tax packages sent to taxpayers by the IRS.

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A LIVELY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

VOLUME 86 - NUMBER 15 APPOMATTOX (VA.) - TIMES-VIRGINIAN - APRIL 14, 1977 APR 14 1977 SINGLE COPY PRICE 15¢

Father Darkleaf

BY
CALVIN ROBINSON

Here 'tis Easter Monday and all is well. Weather is just right, at the moment, but you may awaken any morning and find the thermometer anywhere between 20 and 70 degrees. Got my lawnmower going Saturday and covered half of the yard and gathered some huge Red Emperor tulips. No vegetable seed planting yet, but time is on my side. Likelihood of frost decreases daily.

* * *

Easter Sunday is always a great day at our churches and this year was no exception. I still recall the Easter week end I spent in New York and witnessed the fashion parade on Fifth Avenue. (One lady was wearing a bird cage for a hat, complete with live birds).

* * *

Thanks to B. H. Coleman for mailing me an interesting newspaper clipping from Orlanda, Florida, and to Mrs. Hazel Buchanan for a copy of The St. Petrsburg Times. We have some truly great newspapers in America. I note that the Sunday Washington Post has a circulation of 765,000. Wow. And 4,800 employees!

Like statistics? Shanghai is aid to be the current world's largest city, but in a few years the honor will go to Mexico City. Appomattox heads my list as the best place to live!

* * *

Lots of things happened in April, including the Peace of Appomattox. In 1776 Paul Revere made his famous ride. April 14, 1961 Fort Sumter was fired upon and Civil War began. In 1896 the U..S. ordered Spain out of Cuba. In April, 1917 Congress declared war on Germany and we went into World War I. In April, 1909 Peary reached the North Pole. The first Pony Express delivery went out in April, 1860. The safety pin was patented in April, 1849. Webster's dictionary began in April, 1828. Ponce de Leon arrived in Florida in April, 1513. The Titanic sank April 14, 1912. April birthdays include: Jefferson, Monroe, Grant, Lenin, J. P. Morgan, F. W. Woolworth, Duke Ellington, Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Shirley Temple, Debbie Reynolds, Barbra Streisand. Pocahontas was married to John Rolfe in April. Napoleon married Maria Louise in April. . . and so it goes. Lincoln, Ben Franklin, P. T. Barnum, Alexander the Great, all died in April. Shakespeare was born in April and died on his 52nd birthday, April 23, 1616. April also has National Library Week, National Coin Week, Confederate Memorial Day, and of course, Income Tax day is April 15.

* * *

Fifty-one years ago I was writing a weekly column in our college newspaper. Here are a few quotes. You can serenade a girl with a song but it takes an automobile horn to get her out of doors; one girl was so red-headed she used lipstick for an eyebrow pencil; met a girl who thought a promenade was just another soft drink; Texas is big. One unhappy Texas baseball fan threw an egg at a player and it hatched before it got there; and as an extra, there was the yarn in an Atlanta newspaper column about a grist mill away back in the Georgia hill country. One year there was an extended season of rain. So much so that the flood waters backed up, turned the mill wheel backwards and unground several bushels of corn meal, turning it back to corn on the cob. (I promise not to try to be funny every week, but happened upon the above items and thought might as well pass'em along.)

* * *

There is no holiday when it comes to supporting your Rescue Squad and your fireman. Thanks for reading, and seeya next week.

* * *

White Cane Days For April 15-16

Local Lions, along with many others from clubs throughout South Central Virginia, will conduct their annual fund raising WHITE CANE DAYS sale on April 15 and 16. Making final plans for the two-day fund drive, shown left to right in photo above, are R. Murrell Ferguson, Secretary; Francis Elliott, Chairman of the fund drive; and J. Franklin Vaughan President of the Lions Club. The local Lions have a goal of at least $1200, proceeds will be used to support sight conservation and restoration program locally, & to provide financial assistance to Old Dominion Eye Bank & Research, Inc., a Lions sponsored non-profit organization.

Members of the local Lions Club will be at five locations Friday. From 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. they will be at Farmers National Bank and Fidelity American Bank downtown and from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. they will be at Wilbun's Supermarket, Kings Supermarket and the A. B. C. Store from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

When you make a donation to the White Cane Days fund drive you will in return receive a little white cane, symbol of the sightless, to stick on your lapel.

Members of the Appomattox Lions Club will also have available eye donor cards for anyone wishing to pledge their eyes on death to the eye bank for sight restoring purposes.

Help the Lions help the blind. Get your White Cane from any member of the Appomattox Lions Club...make a generous donation.

PRE-SCHOOL CLINIC PLANS BEING PREPARED

Plans for the pre-school clinic are now being prepared by the health department in cooperation with the local medical doctors.

An appointment will be necessary. There is a fee for the clinic visit. The amount to be paid is based on the gross family income and number of dependents. If you desire an appointment for the physical examination for your child entering school or for any information, please call the health department - 352-5690.

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY SET FOR JUNE 14, 1977

Joan S. Mahan, Secretary of the State Board of Elections, has notified the Secretary of the Electoral Board of Appomattox County that pursuant to the provisions of Section 24.1-176 of the Code of Virginia, a notice in proper form has been received from the proper authorities requesting the calling of a Democratic Primary election of Appomattox County for the purpose of nominating candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and House of Delegates.

The Democratic Primary election has been set for June 14, 1977.

W.O. SLAGLE NAMED COUNTY DOG WARDEN

W. O. Slagle of Route 2, Appomattox has been named Dog Warden by the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors. He assumed the duties of this post effective April 1, 1977.

If services of the Dog Warden are needed, please telephone 352-7316.

Slagle replaces Leonard C. Garrett who has retired.

School Budget Adopted

Supervisors Vote To Retain Tax Base

As a result of action taken Friday by the Appomattox County Board of Supervisors there will be no tax increase in the county this year. The tax levy was set at the current $3.50 level.

The supervisors voted unanimously to retain the current rate per $100 of assessed value based on 25 per cent of true market value.

The board also voted to adopt a $3,046,690 school budget that was termed most conservative.

The total county budget will not be adopted until after a June public hearing, but in adopting the school budget before the April 15 deadline for teacher contracts, the supervisors pointed out that this is based on the $825 per student minimum required by the state Standards of Quality Education.

Dr. S. R. Lawson, board member, in offering the motion to retain the current tax levy pointed out that next year the county general reassessment will become effective and the increased property values will boost taxes.

The county should not raise taxes this year and again next year, he said.

Board Chairman J. M. Cobb, Jr. said the school budget's 2.5 per cent increase over the curent year is the most conservative of all proposals submitted by county departments.

Lloyd G. Walton, school superintendent, gave a complete report to the supervisors on the school budget for the

cont'd on page 12

49 Calls Answered By Local Rescue Squad

Members of the Appomattox County Rescue Squad during the month of March responded to a total of 49 emergency calls. The Life-Pak 5 heart monitor was used on 7 persons and oxygen was administered to seven persons. There were four automobile accidents with 3 personal injuries and one automobile accident with one killed.

In responding to the 49 emergency calls, volunteer members spent 174¾ man-hours and traveled a total of 2,042 miles.

A breakdown of the calls is as follows: abdominal pains, 4; eye injury, 1; stroke, 2; convulsion, 2; wrecks, 5 with 3 persons injured and one killed; heart attacks, 6; overdose, 2; fights, 1; illness, 4; diabetic, 1; transports by doctor request, 11; stab wounds, 2; falls, 1; farm accidents, 1; broken bones, 1; gunshot wound, 1; leg injury, 1; breathing difficulty, 1; electric shock, 1; and chest pains, 1.

In addition to answering emergency calls, members who are instructors have been teaching an advanced first aid and CPR course.

Elected Association Secretary

Mrs. Jean Hesson, General Supervisor of Appomattox County Public Schools, has been elected secretary of the Virginia Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development for 1977-1979. She is currently serving as chairman of the Appomattox Regional Supervisory Group which is composed of ten counties and three cities of Central Virginia.

The state organization is an affiliate of the National Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. The purposes of the organization

cont'd on page 12

Bloodmobile Visit Tuesday Short Of Quota

The Red Cross Bloodmobile made its fifth and final visit of the fiscal year to Appomattox on Tuesday of this week. With the quota for this visit set at 102 unit of blood 89 persons came out and donated a unit of their blood - their lifesaving blood - thus making the visit 13 units short of the quota. Appomattox County ends the fiscal year 100% even though the quota was not met at this visit as they had gone over the quota on other visits.

4-P.M. BURNING LAW STILL IN EFFECT

The Outdoor Burning Law, the law requiring safety in burning brush, trash, or other debris, became effective March 1, 1977 and will be in effect until May 15, 1977.

David M. Smith, Chief Forest Warden, for the Va. Division of Forestry, said the law, known sometimes as the 4 p.m. Law and the brush burning law, actually applies to the burning of any materials in the outdoors.

The regulation, designed to reduce the number of escaped grass and forest fires, requires that burning of any materials or debris, can be done only between the hours of 4 p.m. and 12 midnight if the fire is in or within 300 feet of forestland, brushland, or other inflammable material. The law is in effect from March 1 through May 15 of each year. Smith also pointed out that this regulation is in addition to any air pollution control laws that exist and that are enforced by the Air Pollution Control Board.

Foresters urge that any burning be done after 4 p.m. and that the fire be checked the next day to be sure all sparks are cold. Fires should not be left untended and every effort should be made to make all open fires safe.

Several citizens have been in violation of this law and citations have been written thus far. This can be very costly to citizens and they are urged to obey the 4 P.M. Burning Law to the fullest extent.

Pamplin Ruritans Plan Recreation Center

The Pamplin Ruritan Club is announcing the formation of a Corporation to own and operate a Recreation Center just north of Pamplin on old 460. For several years there has been a softball field at this location. Light poles were installed by the Ruritans of Pamplin 10 or more years ago, and made possible many years of night playing. The land was not the property of the club.

The new Corporation, known as the Pamplin Community Center, Inc., has purchased the land (4+ acres) and now intends to develop it for not only softball on a tournament size field, but will include other types of recreation facilities as the money is available.

Our present plans call for grading, fencing, parking, bleachers, snack bar, sanitary facilities; next we plan to equip

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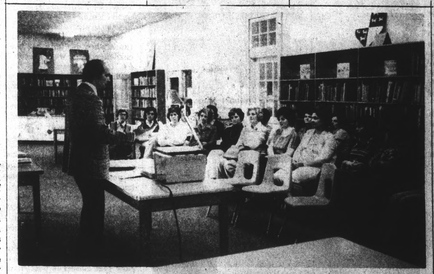
$3,046,690 Budget Adopted By Appomattox County School Board



In-Service Meeting Held At AES

The third countywide in-service meeting of the 1976-77 session for teacher aides was held on Tuesday in the Appomattox Elementary School. Dr. Lowell Curry, Assistant Supervisor, Bureau of Teaching Materials, State Department of Education, conducted a workshop on the preparation and usage of audio-visual teaching materials.

In addition to inservice planned in the individual schools, the teacher aides meet three times each year on a countywide level. At these meetings, consultants are brought in or local personnel provide leadership for the discussion of topics which are selected by the para-professionals.

Local and federal funds allow for the employment of thirty persons who provide supportive services to the instructional program planned by the classroom teachers.

Meeting in regular session on Wednesday, April 6, 1977, the Appomattox County School Board adopted a budget for 1977-78 school session in the amount of $3,046,690. This budget is based on the required expenditure per pupil of $825, exclusive of capital outlay and debt service.

A decrease in anticipated enrollment next year of thirty-five pupils is reflected in the budget, resulting in a decrease in state and local funds of approximately $29,000. Thus, the total increase in local money for the new budget compared to the 1976-77 budget is $50,000.

Allocations within the various categories of the budget are as follows: administration, $62,578, an increase of $4,380; instruction, $1,672,740, an increase of $34,660; other instructional costs, $204,430, up by $7,200; attendance and health, $24,200, higher by $2,500; pupil transportation, $255,856, an increase of $34,856; school food services, $120,000, no change; operation of plant, $70,244, up by $6,003; fixed charges, $54,600, higher by $5,986; summer school, $1,500, no change; adult education, $6500, an increase of $1,000; other educational programs, $25,800, a decrease of $13,420; capital outlay, $20,000, an increase of $9,000; debt service, $280,000, a decrease of $9,833; and other costs, $33,000.

Using available money, the School Board Budget for 1977-78 is designed to provide for continued improvement of the total instructional program and to do as much as possible for all employees. The salary scale for teachers will range from $8,100 to $12,150. Teachers with a Masters Degree will be paid on a scale which begins at $9100 and goes to $13,150. The budget contains $20,000 to assist with a percentage of the cost of each employee's hospitalization insurance.

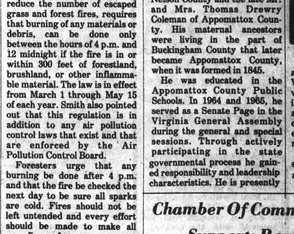
Other provisions of the budget provide for programs to meet the needs of special education students, teacher aides to assist with instruction and to provide some relief for the classroom teacher and a comprehensive maintenance program for buildings and grounds.

Copies of the reports submitted by the evaluation committees that recently worked in the Appomattox Primary, Appomattox Elementary and Pamplin Elementary Schools were presented to members of the School Board. It was pointed out that the reports were very supportive of the program of each school and provided constructive recommendations for school personnel to use in their continued efforts to provide the most effective educational experiences for students.

Mrs. Royal Moore and Mrs. Mildred Richardson are census enumerators for the School Board for the triennial school census. Each person is assigned

cont'd on page 12

Announces Candidacy For Commissioner Of Revenue



Mark S. Catlett

Mark S. Catlett, a native of Appomattox County, has announced his candidacy for the office of Commissioner of Revenue of Appomattox County. He will be running in the special election, November 8, as an Independent.

Mark, a bachelor, is the son of Marvin Foster and Corrine Coleman Catlett. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lee Catlett of Nelson County and the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Drewry Coleman of Appomattox County. His maternal ancestors were living in the part of Buckingham County that later became Appomattox County, when it was formed in 1845.

He was educated in the Appomattox County Public Schools. In 1964 and 1965, he served as a Senate Page in the Virginia General Assembly during the general and special sessions. Through actively participating in the state governmental process he gained responsibility and leadership characteristics. He is presently a second semester senior at Virginia Commonwealth University Evening College majoring in Economics. While attending VCU, he has studied extensively in accounting, real estate and urban land development, and business.

For several years, Mark was employed by Southern Bank and Trust Company in Rich-

cont'd on page 12

Chamber Of Commerce Supports Route 26 Project

The Appomattox County Chamber of Commerce at its April 5th meeting authorized W. S. Slagle, Jr., Chamber President, to attend the road hearings conducted by the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation on Thursday of last week end to speak for the Chamber in requesting that funds be allocated for improvements to and/or reconstruction of Route 26.

We talked with Slagle on Tuesday of this week regarding news article in the Friday edidition of THE NEWS, Lynchburg, stating that the Chamber was in accord with town and county officials in requesting funds from the Route 460 by-pass around Appomattox. Slagle informed the TIMES-VIRGINIAN reporter that neither he nor the Chamber of Commerce had taken any position relative to the Appomattox Route 460 by-pass.

The matter of the proposed by-pass has been referred to the Appomattox County Chamber of Commerce for their study and recommendation, however, at this time no position has been taken by the local Chamber of Commerce.

APRIL IS FUND DRIVE MONTH FOR GLADSTONE RESCUE SQUAD

The month of April is Fund Drive Month for the Gladstone Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Members of the Gladstone Rescue Squad will appreciate your contributions so that they may continue to render a service to their community.

Boy Scout Fund Drive Short of Goal

Appomattox is 69% short of its goal in the Boy Scout fund drive as of Tuesday of this week according to a report from W. M. Abbitt and Ivey Holland, Co-Chairmen for the Boy Scout Fund Drive locally.

As of Tuesday, a total of $1572 had been donated toward a goal of $2290. $678 is needed in order to reach the goal for Appomattox.

The campaign ends April 26th so if you have not made your contribution do so as soon as possible so that Appomattox can be 100% of its quota for the Boy Scouts in this community.

Crumbs For Thought

By: ZEKE

Silence is a wonderful attribute of many wise people. Many have become famous for it. "Silent Cal" became the trade mark of Calvin Coolidge our president. The late "Sam" Rayburn, speaker of the House spoke so seldom that when he was to speak on the floor of the House of Representatives the chairs were filled, when most other were half filled. Many observers have said, "silence is one of the hardest arguments to refute."

In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise. Prov. 10:19